

Hon. T. A. Grerar,
United Grain Growers,
Winnipeg, Man.

THE U.F.A.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF
THE UNITED FARMERS OF ALBERTA & THE ALBERTA WHEAT POOL
AND OTHER PROVINCIAL MARKETING POOLS

VOL. VIII

CALGARY, ALBERTA, MARCH 24th, 1929

No. 3

Debate on Second Reading of Alberta Wheat Pool Bill

Staff Correspondence

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Members of Assembly Inspect Mental Hospital

By NORMAN F. PRIESTLEY

...

Official News from the Alberta Wheat Pool



Glimpses of Life's Other Side

By NORMAN F. PRIESTLY



"I had wish I had never gone! said one.

"I should like to wake up tomorrow and find it had been a dream and there was no such place nor any need of it," said another.

"I hope," said a third, "that the day will come when the conditions which give rise to this sort of thing will have been removed."

It was a group of legislators speaking who were returning to Edmonton after having spent four or five hours looking over the Mental Hospital at Ponoka.

They were a serious group. Scenes had been etched on their minds that never would be erased. Faces were photographed there that would appear again to haunt them long years hence. Voices were recorded in the brain that the needle of memory would awaken in many a quiet hour of reflection in the years that were to be. The harmonies of life would forever be somewhat jangled with a strange discordant melody. In their hearts was a new, an added, tenderness for humanity. To the list of heroic burden bearers of the social order a new category had been supplied; that of the men and women who "minister to minds diseased."

Of the four groups into which the twenty-two legislators and press representatives had been divided, we were the last to leave the superintendent's office. Before setting out on our tour, we had the advantage of a quarter of an hour or more with Dr. E. H. Cooke, head of the institution. From him we learned that the hospital houses at present some 1050 patients. Last year there was exactly one admission for each day, the three hundred and sixty-sixth patient arriving just an hour before the year closed. The number under treatment was of course much greater. Having received some valuable information as to the general classification of patients we set out, Miss Stewart, superintendent of nurses, and a male attendant taking up the rear of the small party.

How Plans of Human Life

The master key of the superintendent opened doors on new phases of human life, disclosed many devices and appliances of which we might have heard the names but with which we were happily unfamiliar. Large rooms with seventy to one hundred patients enjoying themselves in their own peculiar distraught way; three playing solitaire at one table; a boy of fifteen making rhythm with the noise of two beef bones; a man exhibiting newly skinned skins, glorying in the evidence of his fight, talking sensibly for a moment, then squaring himself while in a torrent of words he lays claim to having defeated all the great heavyweights since the days of Corbett and Fitzsimmons; a young man, head shorn close, eyes eager and restless, his face an interrogation mark, his arms tied across his breast with the sleeves and posterior straps of a strait-jacket, arms that had to be prevented from making end by hanging of that pitiful life; in bed in the adjoining dormitory, an ageing figure with an intellectual face reclining at a game of cribbage with a fellow inmate, while from another bed across the way a dishevelled head emerges to shout strings of filthy epithets

at breathless speed as the little group passes by.

The key turned the lock on another ward. Here was a more vicious, a menacing type. A big Swede with a booming voice leans forward and glares at you while he shouts an unintelligible lingo of broken English. An elderly man advances rapidly with a fist full of folded papers, frayed from much handling; he plucks one from the sheaf, and flourishing it dramatically, shouts that it is a message from God who is shortly to destroy the hospital, the Government, and all other created things. As we pass on his denunciations, which have risen to a crescendo of unintelligible shrieks, dis suddenly amid chuckles from queer faces which seem to say that here is one even crazier than they.

A Homicidal Type

A menacing, skulking figure approaches Dr. Cooke from behind, with fist clenched to strike a mighty blow. The downward descent of the arm is arrested by some inward force and the blow spends itself in a gentle shove. The doctor turns and speaks a quiet word; with lowering face the man slinks away. He has twice assailed the doctor with homicidal intent, once with a chair. One of our number becomes the centre of a group from which he can hardly get away. We pass along a corridor flanked with cells in which men pace swiftly to and fro from wall to wall yelling horribly. You have a queer feeling up the spine and experience some fear for the member of the party left behind. You are reassured by the steady stride of the doctor's military figure and the unflinching presence of the lady nurse.

These are a few of the figures that resolve themselves from this flitting film of fevered human life as we emerge from the men's wards.

In the Women's Ward

But the women's wards! The pen hesitates. What shall we write of all these things? Anything at all? Around the big iron stove in the station afterwards, while we waited for the train, we decided that THERE was tragedy indeed. There was more excitement, more speech, more movement. Some made love to the doctor and shy advances to other members of the party. Some complained; some pleaded; some cajoled; some hurled foul names; others terms of endearment. Our visit at the supper hour had to be hastily curtailed as one of the inmates hurled her dishes and shouted hateful things, brandishing a folded magazine at the lady member of the group. We write a period to the paragraph and draw the curtain of silence on the scene.

Care of Special Cases

We were shown the bath rooms, scrupulously clean. The more complex bath rooms where pathetic cases that seem to have lost interest in life are aroused to greater sensitivity by hydro-therapy. We saw electric baths, cage beds, of which the institution has but four, cells in which on a low bed so near the floor as to prevent self-hurt on the part of epileptics in spasms of violence, strange figures covered. Everywhere was evidence to be seen of the application of thought to the needs of special cases. We were shown

how in the cells where in periods of raging insanity men were kept apart, they tore the very paint of the walls; and were struck by the difficulties met in feeding and taking care of such patients at these times.

We saw doctors' offices where patients were examined for minor defects, a dental room with up-to-date appliances; a fully equipped X-ray apparatus, a laboratory where tissue was examined and experiments were tabulated for the advancement of the science of psycho-therapy. We were told how an Austrian scientist had stumbled on the idea that a high fever which could be controlled would effect a cure of general paralysis; and how that what was known as "benign malaria," which was intermittent in character and could be controlled at any time by use of quinine was given to patients and resulted in complete cure.

Cooking and Baking Arrangements

The arrangements for cooking and eating impressed us as splendidly efficient. The dining rooms are very large and one was again struck by the thought that it is fortunate that the mentally deranged do not know how to co-operate for given ends, because some of these rooms held sixteen tables seating fourteen patients each. The occupational rooms with their basketry, and carpentry, book rugs, needlework, pastel painting and other devices to restore "laugh" to those bewildered folk, were of much interest. The splendid recreational hall with its high ceiling and dancing floor and fine lighting would be the pride of any community. It had been very tastefully decorated in light colours with those fanciful touches dear to the feminine mind. Here was displayed knowledge of the fact that large masses of primary color act as an irritant. There were no poster effects.

It is safe to say that not a member of the inspecting group but was glad to get back to the offices of the superintendent; glad to leave that strange world behind; glad to rest after what seemed several miles of walking through corridors and wards; glad that if he himself had ever had any doubts as to his own sanity, the world had never questioned it to the extent of sending him to that institution.

A Few Practical Considerations

Reducing one's impressions to a few practical considerations, especially in the light of the criticism recently directed at this phase of the activities of the Minister of Health, the following emerge: There is some overcrowding. Not that there is lack of space. In even the most densely peopled ward there is plenty of room; but out of the aeroplane shaped wings which accommodate the patients in beautifully sunny and well ventilated dormitories, the inmates gather for social contact in the central room. There are too many of them together at a given time. No small group of attendants or nurses can adequately meet every contingency which might arise. It would seem to the layman that a greater differentiation as to type would be advantageous. That is to say the patients might be graded more. It would undoubtedly be nearer the ideal if certain of the more tractable and quiet types could be given more liberty. With-

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EDITORIAL

The Wheat Pool debate in the Legislature is over, and we extend our condolences to the rank and file of the Conservative party. Party discipline, we suppose, is party discipline. But where was Mr. Duggan?

• • •

It was not a Conservative newspaper, but the *Edmonton Bulletin* which, after quoting the Conservative leader to the length of six columns, in opposition to the principle of the Wheat Pool bill, allotted a little more than a column to the six speeches in support.

The *Bulletin* we doubt was actuated like the leader solely by consideration of "the interests of the 37,000 ordinary Pool farmers." The vote on the second reading showed that there are only three members of the Alberta Legislature, all from city constituencies, who are desirous of protecting "the interests of the ordinary Pool farmers." It is gratifying to have this reassurance that a portion of the press is devoted to their interests.

• • •

As it is credibly reported that two of the Conservatives were somewhat reluctant to oppose the principle of the Wheat Pool bill, we are inclined to think that Mr. McGillivray is the only member of the Alberta Legislative Assembly who is a whole-hearted and dependable supporter of "the interests of the 37,000 ordinary Pool farmers." In their behalf he is willing to sacrifice even the interests of the party which, at least for a week or two, he may continue to lead.

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GRADING GARNET WHEAT

Elsewhere in this issue we publish a report of a meeting held in Ottawa, attended by representatives of various interests, and by officers of the Departments of Agriculture and Trade and Commerce, at which it was agreed that "providing no seriously adverse criticisms were received, the Grain

Board would be expected to allow Garret wheat to go into the same grades as Marquis for the 1929 crop." It was also recommended that certain trial shipments be made, in order that foreign (and also domestic) millers might report on results obtained. This proposal will be carried out.

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WHAT IS PROSPERITY?

What is prosperity? The people of the United States have it in abundance, according to aggregate statistics, yet James J. Davis, the U.S. Secretary of Labor, as recently quoted by the *Calgary Albertan*, states that "80 per cent of Americans are poor." Figures compiled by the Federal Trade Commission at Washington show that 1 per cent of the people own 39 per cent of the country's wealth, 13 per cent own 50 per cent, while 87 per cent of the population own 10 per cent of the wealth of the republic. Of the total national income, 59 per cent goes to capital.

Startling inequalities of this character are not confined to the United States. British statistics are also very impressive. And in Canada there is exactly the same tendency at work as elsewhere. We are certainly not in a position to give thanks that "we are not as these others." We have no just grounds for national self-complacency, even though inequality may not have reached such extremes in this country as yet, as in some of the older commercial regions of the world.

When we turn to the annual budget statements of Ministers of Finance, comparative figures of this sort are conspicuously lacking. Yet it is vital to the future of our civilization that the facts should be widely known, and that the tendency to increased inequality should be arrested. Much can be done through the development of co-operation. James P. Warshaw, the wealthy, public spirited New Englander who recently visited Alberta to speak on the movement which he has done so much to advance, rightly dwelt upon the very great possibilities of this form of activity. There is, however, a place for local intervention as well.

And, incidentally, newspapers can be much better employed in calling attention to existing disparities, and in seeking means for their removal, than in launching campaigns, in the spirit of present-day Italy, rather than of the England of Milton or Shelley, or the Canada of Mackenzie and Papineau, against any elements in the population whose protest may take unconventional forms.

Some forms of protest are wiser than others, and some methods of going about the job of rectifying existing inequalities are sounder than others. But the citizen of the modern world who is not dominated by the bizarre social philosophy of Fascism, and yet can read of the widening gulf between the classes without becoming in some sort a rebel, is surely ill-equipped to assume the responsibilities of citizenship.

• • •

DEAR DEWY OF STRUGGLE FOR PUBLIC RIGHTS

"The interests of Labor and of the wheat-growers are always ably championed by their representatives in Parliament; but it is hardly fair that they and the handful of Progressive members should have to bear the brunt of the struggle for the rights of the general producing and consuming public."—*Canadian Forum*.

• • •

The Wheat Pool Bill has passed the committee stage in the Legislature, and awaits third reading. A report of the discussion in committee will be given next week.

Wheat Pool Bill Passes Second Reading in Assembly, Only A. A. McGillivray and Two Lieutenants Opposing

Strong Support Given by All Other Groups in Legislature to Measure Introduced in Behalf of 37,000 Pool Farmers—Assembly Hears Echoes of Keay Case—McGillivray Makes Strong Dialectical Effort in Speech Against Bill—Supporters Upheld Right of Pool to Conduct Own Business in Own Way—Pool's Right to Handle Members' Wheat at Cost

STAFF CORRESPONDENCE

EDMONTON, Feb. 25.—Moving this afternoon the second reading of Bill No. 5, "An Act Respecting the Alberta Wheat Pool", Gordon Walker (U.F.A.), Clareholm precipitated what promises to be one of the keenest debates of the present session. His speech was reported in the Wheat Pool section of the last issue of *The U.F.A.* The closing paragraph of the speech, which was delivered in a clear and forceful way, set forth in brief the objects of the legislation sought as being "that this co-operative body known as 'The Wheat Pool' shall be able to conduct their own business in their own way and collectively accomplish the most for the separate individuals by insuring that no interference on technical grounds shall defeat this object."

A closely reasoned, well prepared speech, delivered with all the dialectical skill of which that well known pleader, A. A. McGillivray, leader of the Conservative Party, is capable, occupied the next hour and a half, at the close of which he offered an amendment, seconded by his colleague John Irwin, Calgary, which meant giving the bill a six month's hiatus without second reading or that careful consideration with all interests involved able to attend which is given in committee before third reading.

A few words from the Minister of Public Works and the Premier drew attention to this latter point and the amendment went down to defeat amid a chorus of "Noes."

WHERE IS MCGILLIVRAY'S MANDATE FOR FARMERS?

In the few minutes remaining for discussion on the main question Mr. McPherson dealt with the question asked by the Conservative leader as to the mandate of the Assembly to pass this legislation. The duly elected representatives of a section of the people of the Province combined for their own purpose had formulated certain wants and brought them before the Legislature in the form of this bill. Would Mr. McGillivray throw them out without even consideration in committee? Where was Mr. McGillivray's mandate to so concern himself about the interests of these 37,000 farmers?

OPENING ATTACK ON WHEAT POOL BILL

Mr. McGillivray opened his attack on the Wheat Pool bill by saying that at no time had he or his party in the Assembly attacked the Alberta Wheat Pool. The basic idea of collective marketing of wheat was not new to Alberta. Messrs. J. H. Woods of the *Calgary Herald* and John Imrie of the *Edmonton Journal* had been responsible for its introduction to Alberta. (Rounds of laughter from U.F.A. members). They had brought in the great marketing expert Rapier; had brought about the

Protesting that he was actuated by one consideration only, "the interest of the 37,000 ordinary Pool farmers," A. A. McGillivray, Conservative leader, introduced a motion in the Legislature on February 25th to kill the Alberta Wheat Pool bill by giving the measure "six months' hiatus." Mr. McGillivray advanced in support of his motion many arguments used in the Keay action against the Pool recently heard in the courts. The motion was rejected amid much applause, U.F.A., Labor and Liberal members present solidly supporting the second reading of the bill, with only Mr. McGillivray and two of his lieutenants opposing.

Mr. McGillivray's "mandate" to speak for the 37,000 Pool farmers was challenged by O. L. McPherson, who pointed out that the bill had been unanimously approved by the Pool delegates, who discussed Pool affairs very fully at meetings of members throughout the Province, and in this matter had taken action in their behalf. Premier Brownlee declared that he knew of no Pool farmer, except Mr. Keay, who had felt aggrieved, and he had apparently been content until by some peculiar circumstance he found himself in the "sanctum of the newly appointed Moses of the Grain Trade."

Other speakers in behalf of the bill were W. E. Shield, Macleod, who spoke as a representative of a constituency where "eighty to ninety per cent of the farmers were Wheat Pool members;" John Buskey, Gleichen; R. M. McCool, Cochrane; J. R. Love, Wainwright; J. T. Shaw, Liberal leader, who stated that the Pool Directors would be recreant to their trust if they did not seek to remedy by legislation any weakness in the original charter which litigation had revealed; and Gordon Walker, the mover of second reading, who closed the debate.

A report of the discussion of the bill in committee will be given in our next issue.

formation of the committee of sixteen, and "the Greenfield Government got in on the band wagon as it wined by."

There was no magic in the word co-operation. Any attempt to make the Wheat Pool a political instrument would lead to its disintegration. Members sitting on the Government side would therefore surely consider the bill not as politicians but as legislators determined to see that no injustice was done to the thousands of farmers involved who had no political thought or motive in embracing the scheme. He maintained that the bill was so dishonest in character "as to be shocking to the conscience of any thoughtful man or woman who approaches its consideration without prejudice or bias." He held no brief before the Assembly for the man Harold William Keay. The injustice proposed to him was unimportant as compared with that sought to be imposed upon thousands of other Pool farmers whose legal rights before the courts would by it be barred.

The matter had nothing to do with disputes between the Grain Trade and the Pool. It was a matter as to whether the Pool Executive proposed to deal fairly with its own members.

The Conservative leader had no doubt

that re-application for incorporation would never have been made were it not for the action of Keay now before the courts. The bill proposed to block any similar action on the part of the thousands of other Pool members who otherwise would have the right to such action. The re-incorporation clauses were "a cloak to cover up the real object and purpose of the bill which is to protect the Pool executive against the mis-handling of the growers' money."

DISTRIBUTION OF ELEVATOR SURPLUS

The charge was made by Keay, said Mr. McGillivray, that the Pool Executive had taken one million dollars and distributed it among those members who had been able or had happened to make use of the Pool country elevators. He then quoted from the contract, stressing the words "pay over . . . his proportion of all the proceeds." The Pool, said he, had no elevators at all at the beginning, so could not have contemplated that those who made use of the Pool elevators would get more money for their wheat than those who did not.

A second charge made by Keay, said the member, was that the Pool Elevator Company had made a breach of trust in

taking the million dollars belonging to all the members of the Pool whose trustees they were and dividing this sum to a favored class, those who were able or willing to use their facilities.

The Pool was on the horns of a dilemma: on the one hand, if the distribution of the million dollars was made by the Pool, then under the contract it was improper and illegal since all members were to be treated alike; on the other hand, if made by the Elevator Company, it was a breach of trust by the Pool Executive who were in complete control, giving away this sum and depreciating the assets of the company by that much when the shares belonged to all members and not Pool elevator patrons only.

Further the Pool, Keay charged, had refused to deliver up his shares in the elevator company. Surely it was his right to demand shares which had been bought with his money? The Pool had also improperly entered into an agreement with the Central Selling Agency as to mixing wheat, mingling the proceeds resulting from the sale of various grades, trading in options and buying wheat and charging losses incurred in such purchase against the sale of the plaintiff Keay's wheat. Keay also charged that he had had no proper accounting of the proceeds of the sale of the various grades sold, nor of the moneys deducted from his returns and invested in the Elevator Company; and that the Pool had deducted the one per cent for commercial reserve without paying over or accounting for same.

These statements were not peculiar to Keay, said Mr. McGillivray. Why should the Pool Executive object to a fair trial in open court, maintaining that the matter should be arbitrated? He maintained that some of these charges had as yet been investigated at all, and while the decision was still pending in the courts and had progressed only so far as to determine the mode of trial, the Legislature was being asked to legalize the actions of the Pool through this bill. Mr. McGillivray then proceeded to examine the bill in detail.

Mr. McGillivray maintained that Clause 23, providing for the creation of an Elevator Reserve, was extraneous to the contract. Apparently an account called

"The Elevator Reserve" had been opened which might or might not be the same as the Commercial Reserve; the Government was being asked by the bill to ratify the taking of money for purposes which were not contained in the agreement between the Grower and the Pool.

Connecting sections 6, and 24, to 26, the Conservative leader maintained that the Pool Executive might keep the moneys invested in the elevator reserve on behalf of a grower who afterwards ceased to be a member of the Pool as long as they considered it useful so to do. Conduct of this kind in the case of any other trustees would be considered ordinary conversion or theft.

Clause 27 was a most unusual and extraordinary clause. It enabled these seventy trustees representing 27,000 people to pass a resolution making right anything they had done no matter how wrong. "Surely," said Mr. McGillivray, "there is some limit to the legislation asked by even such close friends of the front benches as these."

With respect to the two months' limitation provided for in Clause 20. How could a member get to know within two months about any action that might affect him?

SHOWS MUCH CONCERN FOR POOL FARMER

Turning to the provision in the bill for the continuance of the Keay action, Mr. McGillivray noted that there had been assurance given through the columns of *The U.F.A.* that the action would proceed. He was not so much concerned as to what the legislators thought of the Keay action. He was concerned about the ordinary Pool farmer, who would be "at the sweet will of the Executive" in the event of this legislation being enacted.

Under the provisions of this act, the Pool would be "no longer limited by the powers it had at the time its members signed up their contracts." Their powers would now be unlimited. It was only a short time since the growers had signed up for a second period of five years. Why had these powers not been sought before this new contract? The Directors were now to be given power to mix wheat, with grain and other cereals not only of the members but of non-pool farmers. This power was entirely inconsistent with the contract.

That the Directors of the Pool would have the power under the new bill to gerrymander the districts into which the Province was divided so as to keep themselves in power indefinitely was the criticism levelled by the member at Sec. 9. This power, said he, might be necessary for the marketing of wheat, but he could not see it. It was an extraordinary thing that these new by-laws, the result, it was said, of six years' experience, should be compiled just a few months after the Pool farmers had signed up again for a second period of five years.

THE PENALTY FOR BREACH OF CONTRACT

Dealing with the provisions of Section 20, Mr. McGillivray claimed that he was not aware of any Parliament in the English speaking world that had undertaken to say with respect to any contract that a certain stipulated sum should be paid for breach of that contract to one of the parties whether that party sustained damages or not. The Pool Executive were fearful that the law might be against them and were therefore asking the Legislature to say whether the twenty-five cents was a penalty or liquidated dam-

ages. The proposal was vicious in principle and should not be entertained.

The situation provided for by Section 29 was entirely anomalous. The Pool reserved for itself redress for any cause of action, but debarred its members from the courts. Surely the courts stood high in the esteem of the people. Why prevent the members of the Pool from having their right interpreted by those who had given a lifetime to the study of such matters?

According to Section 37, the Pool member would no longer be entitled to the right to inspect the books of the organization. There would be nothing that the Executive could not do. If they decided to give the elevators away to a favored class, there would be nothing to prevent it. The Premier ventured to dissent to this and drew upon himself a sarcastic retort from the Conservative leader.

Concluding, he would say that he was doing no special pleading. He had one point of view and one only: that of the good of the ordinary Pool member. He had no doubt that the members of the Government intended to pass this bill. He hoped, however, that the supporters were not under the domination of the Pool executive, but were interested in the ordinary Pool member also. Where had the Assembly derived its mandate to pass this legislation? Where had these hurriedly called and secretly assembled sixty-nine delegates obtained their mandate?

WOULD SUBMIT TO INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

He had this proposal to make, that not until the proposed legislation had been submitted to the individual members of the Pool and an opportunity given them to endorse it or withdraw from the Pool taking their investments with them, should it be passed. He believed in parties and in party loyalty; but he had seen the spectacle of private members held up to ridicule because they ventured to express an independent view. There was nothing more alarming in public life today than the infinite impudence of a few men assuming to think for all others in their party. Debates were farcical or even dangerous when those who were unable to make converts attempted to overawe and coerce those they were unable to per-

MOVED REJECTION OF POOL BILL



G. B. WALKER, M.L.A.



A. A. MCGILLIVRAY, M.L.A.

sands. If the right to think for oneself were party treachery, give him that kind of traitor who would be an honest citizen rather than the one who votes against his convictions and so was guilty of treachery to himself, his constituents and the country he was supposed to serve. He submitted that his proposal to afford the members of the Pool the opportunity to consider the proposed legislation and either subscribe to it or withdraw with the amount he had invested in the Pool, was a fair and just one. He then moved the amendment that the bill be "read a second time six months hence," which means "that the bill be killed forthwith."

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY POOL DELEGATES

Hon. C. L. McPherson called attention to the fact that this would virtually mean the defeat of the bill. C. L. Gibbs (Lab.) Edmonton, asked if any provision had been made for a discussion of the bill by the members of the Pool. Gordon Walker, the mover, stated that it had received the unanimous approval of the entire sixty-nine delegates. It was also the practice for delegates to go about their districts discussing all matters pertaining to the Pool.

Premier Brownlee submitted that it had been the unfailing practice of the Assembly to give opportunity for all persons interested in any legislation to appear before committees and forward their special claims there. This the amendment would prevent. It was the purpose of the bill to confer certain powers upon the Wheat Pool, a corporation already existent and functioning. Replying briefly to one question of Mr. McGillivray's, the Premier said he would ask who came with a mandate from, say, the City of Edmonton? Surely its elected representatives. He would oppose the amendment.

The amendment was put and lost.

Speaking to the motion to give the bill second reading, the Minister of Public Works remarked that he was one of the "front benchers" referred to by Mr. McGillivray. The leader of the Conservatives had appealed to the private members on the Government side that if they were honest men they would not pass this bill. He had on previous occasions heard the "honorable gentleman" speak of these same members in most scathing terms, not at all in accordance with the high-mindedness now assumed. Such insinuations did not fit in with the role of savior of the 37,000 men who were being betrayed by their duly elected officers. For his own part, speaking as a Pool member, he would sooner listen to the sixty-nine rather than the representations of one who was being paid to oppose them, and who had used such heat and venom in his attack.

WHAT IS MONETARY INTEREST OF KEAY?

The appeal to set political considerations aside had been completely nullified by the attempt on the part of Mr. McGillivray himself to claim for his own party the credit for the formation of the Pool. He, the Minister, would discuss the bill on its merits. The question was, were they going to give the Assembly the opportunity to discuss the bill in committee, where perhaps there would not be the same publicity as would follow the speech of today? He would like to ask what was the monetary interest of Keay that he should take his case against the Pool so far as to the Supreme Court of Canada. If it was a bona fide action of a co-operative trying

to secure his rights, he felt sure there would have been a different attitude. It was worthy of note that there had been no long list of protests against the bill from these 37,000 in whom Mr. McGillivray was so much interested. He would not refer to the provisions of the bill in Mr. McGillivray's term "legalized conversion"; he would rather regard it as an attempt to free the Pool from subsidized malicious embarrassment. This was the object of the bill. In his heat Mr. McGillivray had used extreme statements and showed intense feeling. He had failed to take into consideration the rights enjoyed under the old contract. In Section 28 of the old bill the Pool had been authorized to "do all such other things as may be necessary to attain those objects."

Mr. McGillivray had tried to frighten the Assembly by suggesting a gerrymander engineered by a corrupt Directorate to keep themselves in power. He, the Minister, was not frightened or concerned. "Because you are going to enjoy the use of other people's money," interjected the Conservative Leader. Mr. McPherson, continuing, thought that the leader knew little of the sentiment of the members of the Pool. They would sooner, Mr. McPherson thought, be under the dominance of their own elected Directors than under that of certain other interests.

Six o'clock arrived and adjournment was ordered till eight o'clock.

VOTE BRINGS DRAMATIC CONCLUSION

Dramatically concluding the debate on the second reading of the Wheat Pool bill, a recorded vote with only four members of the Assembly absent, showed this evening a solid front on the Government side of the Assembly, together with all members of the Liberal and Labor groups. There was no visible effect, of a favorable nature, of the two hours of argument and pleading "on behalf of the 37,000 ordinary Pool farmers" of the afternoon session, except the negative standing vote of Mr. McGillivray himself and his two followers, John Irwin, of Calgary, and C. Y. Weaver, of Edmonton. Every speech made, including that of J. T. Shaw, who had been expected at least to seriously criticize the bill, was in favor of adopting the principle of the bill, which is the effect of giving it a second reading.

Others speaking in its favor were W. H. Shield, Marleau; John Buckley, Gleichen; R. M. McCool, Cochrane; J. R. Love, Wainwright, all U.F.A. members, Premier Brownlee, and finally the mover of the bill, Gordon Walker (U.F.A.) Claresholm. The consideration of the remaining items of the estimates of the Department of Public Works concluded the sitting.

SHIELD SHOWS WHERE HE GETS HIS MANDATE

Mr. Shield spoke as one of the 37,000, also as the representative of a constituency where from eighty to ninety per cent of the farmers were Wheat Pool members. He had no mandate from those in support of this bill. He knew that he was in accord with the membership of the Pool in supporting it. No organization gave more freedom of expression to its members than the Wheat Pool. He reviewed the history of the organization. They had had the United Grain Growers, but had wanted to get away from a profit sharing basis to something strictly co-operative. There had been a demand in the first year of operation for the building of elevators. The Directors had not moved

fast enough in this direction for the members.

The million dollars, of which Mr. McGillivray had spoken, were the earnings of wheat passed through the elevators. He had not personally shared in it. He had delivered his wheat to another company. Profits to him from that handling were as non-existent as if there had been no Wheat Pool elevator in existence. It would have been a breach of trust on the part of the Directors had they returned the profits from the elevator handling of wheat in any other way. The members of the Pool had confidence in their Directors. He would associate himself with such eminent observers as Premier Baldwin and Ramsey MacDonald in saying that the Wheat Pool was one of the greatest co-operative associations in existence.

SHAW SPEAKS FAVORABLY OF BILL

That he was in a disinterested position and wished to give his best judgment to the consideration of this bill, was the declaration of J. T. Shaw, Liberal leader. He and his party had never been hostile to the Pools. He wished them a large and abundant prosperity. The interests of co-operation were best served by a non-partisan attitude. So long as the Pool sought no unfair advantage, would he seek to give them the same opportunity as any other corporation.

He would say, while not imputing any motives to any who had spoken, that if litigation had disclosed any weaknesses in the Pool charter, then the trustees would be recreant to their trust unless they sought to strengthen it. It was perfectly proper for them to come to the Legislature for that purpose. He differed with Mr. McGillivray in several items of criticism. He asked himself, were the interests of any non-Pool person prejudiced, impaired or abridged. Had they been, he thought Mr. McGillivray would gladly have made reference to the fact. He, himself, saw no evidence of such. Again, were the interests of Pool members so affected? He did not believe that possible and if it were possible it were possibly unwise. He thought the method of division of territory and election of delegates and Directors quite democratic and fair. There was also the system of recall. The rights of the grower, as in the case of the 1924 act, were in the act and the by-laws and the contract. The Liberal group were not offering any objection to the particular method of doing business sought by the Pool in the case of the 25 cents a bushel damages. He did not see any serious objection to its inclusion in the statute. Bootlegging in grain must be prevented.

The Pool members were apparently satisfied that the Pool should limit their right of action to arbitration. This clause was equally as wide as that in the old act. He did not treat the two months provisions as serious. He saw more difficulty in the matter of the Elevator and Commercial Reserves. These were created, however, by the terms of the contract. The Directors had conclusive discretion under the contract. He saw no reason, therefore, why it should not be included in the terms of the act. He thought it his duty to give the bill his fullest consideration. He would therefore give the second reading his support.

JOHN BUCKLEY CONNECTS MCGILLIVRAY'S HISTORY

Warning the Assembly in terms of the old school master of a well known story not to mistake perspiration for inspiration

John Buckley (U.F.A.), Glouchester, thought Mr. McGillivray had made up in vehemence and fervor for what his speech lacked in logic. The Conservative leader was wrong in his history. Messrs. Irvine and Woods, to whom he had given such credit for establishing the Wheat Pool, were only sixteen years too late. The old Grain Growers' Grain Company had conceived the idea in 1907. They had been frustrated by the Manitoba Government and the Winnipeg Grain Exchange. The Dominion Wheat Board had given the growers further education. The U.F.A. had made several abortive attempts. Then Southern members had decided to go ahead. The glorious idea of capitalizing on the movement under way had then been conceived by the gentlemen named. The Assembly had heard a whole lot of noise about antitrust this afternoon. The bill had been characterized as vicious and dishonest. What about the 5 per cent paid on the deducted reserve? In his opinion it would be difficult to find anything more democratic and fair. He was 100 per cent behind the bill.

McCOOL OBJECTS TO INSULTING LANGUAGE

The member for Cochrane, R. M. McCool (U.F.A.), thought it time to call attention to the insinuating and insulting language of the leader of the Conservative party. He had asked for fair play; but did not exemplify fair play. How could this bill be considered if it got the six months' halt proposed by the honorable gentleman?

BROWNLEE DEALS WITH SOME ASPERSIONS

Premier Brownlee paid an opening tribute to the fair minded attitude on the subject shown by Liberal Leader Shaw. He, himself, would not attempt to follow the devious paths of aspersion of the Directors of the Wheat Pool and insinuations regarding Government back benches pursued by the leader of the Conservative party. Mr. McGillivray would have been justly indignant if it had been suggested that he had been informed in his stand by his position as legal advisor to the Grain trade. He took pride in the U.F.A. members. They compared very favorably to those supporting the honorable leader. He and his Ministers had exerted no influence, force or persuasion in connection with this bill (Government Members: "Hear, Hear"). A private member's bill was entitled to the same consideration as that of any city, town or corporation.

If every member of the Assembly had kept himself as free in the matter of this bill as he and his Government had done, the bill would have been kept out of politics. Why bring up the question of the origin of the Pool? He was prepared to give the two men named by Mr. McGillivray any credit due them. Much work had been done before. The way had been prepared for years by the building up of the necessary spirit. He would countenance nothing "unfair" or "vicious."

Much had been heard of this man Keay. Who was he? What merits had he in connection with this bill? He had never complained previously about his treatment or the price he had received. He had apparently been content to have monies deducted and to receive his six per cent upon the same. It was not till by some peculiar coincidence he had found himself in the sanctum of the newly appointed Moses of the Grain Trade he had been heard of. He did not believe that he represented many farmers, 20,000 to 25,000 of these farmers had signed up

again and had agreed to have deductions made and held in trust. He did not know of a single farmer inside the man Keay who was aggrieved.

What, for instance, was a farmer deterred from doing? The Wheat Pool was not like any other corporation. Men were banded together to sell wheat. Each year's crop was separate in itself. Apparently at the instigation of certain interests a man demands the right to an accounting after five years. He, the Premier, was not prepared to support the two months' limitation necessarily. He would let the bill go forward and deal with that when it came up in committee. It might be that a longer term would be more satisfactory. There should be some limitation of action.

SUBSTANTIALLY SAME AS OLD CLAUSE

The abstraction clause was not so terribly wicked. The similar clause, Sec. 29 of the old act, had been drafted by Mr. McGillivray himself when acting as advisor to the organization committee of the Wheat Pool. There was some variation but they were substantially the same. What was the reason for the clause? The Pool and the member were in two entirely different positions. The question asked by the member was, "Have I received my share? Was my grain mixed?" The Pool was concerned with the delivery of wheat. Ships were waiting for cargo. The Pool must be able to force delivery; so the courts were open to it. The trustees were charged with unfairness for asking legislation reversing the memorandum of agreement.

What mandate had the Executive? That had been well answered by Mr. Shaw. The Legislature had been asked by cities to ratify by-laws whose legality was in question. They had been asked to make legal the election of certain officials. They had even overriden contracts. The existence of the Public Utilities Commission was largely based on this conception of powers. There was hardly a thing in the bill differing materially from things that were often brought before the Legislature. The first Wheat Pool contract had been well drafted, but few, if any of those involved had any idea of the possible future development of the Pool or any vision of the methods to be adopted through the operations of the years.

They were basing an unknown trail. "Mixing," for instance, had not been provided for in the first contract; but 37,000 had concurred in its inclusion in the new. Exportation and sale for export had not been possible if the Pool had adhered to the strict letter of the first contract.

The Premier wondered, why such an issue of section 27 on second reading? He did not endorse it in full. As for the million dollars, he would not consent to any suggestion that the assets of the Pool had been depreciated. Other grain companies turned passively dividends by the action of their directors. The direct loss is attributable the bringing of wheat to the elevator. It was a depreciation but mighty good business. The United Grain Growers had done this. The handling of grain by local elevators was not marketing. The same charge was made as was the case with the line companies. Why had the right to say that the Wheat Pool should not handle its wheat at cost?

The Legislature had been asked to put its approval on what the Pool had done. If the issue arose as to whether the farmers' Pools should be able to carry on business without being harassed by opposing interests, he for one would stand

solid for the farmers. He had advised members of the Grain Trade to leave the Pool alone. If it were economically sound it would flourish. If not it would come to nothing.

In closing, Mr. Brownlee made reference to an insinuation of the leader of the Conservative party as to the connection between Mr. Brownlee's firm of lawyers and the Wheat Pool. He was not concerned as to the "propriety" of such connection; nor did he think others were seriously concerned.

Speaking briefly, J. R. Love of Wainwright said that Mr. McGillivray had sought every possible flaw in the bill. Assuming that the rights of a Pool member were being taken away, what recourse had he? He could go back home and talk to his fellow members. They could oppose the bill and employ some such legal talent as Mr. McGillivray; or spread the idea and elect other delegates who would reconstitute the board of directors.

WALKER CONCLUDES THE POOL DEBATE

Concluding the debate, Gordon Walker noted that the opposition to the bill had come from one source only. He had often admired the language and ability of the Conservative leader. He had been amazed at him that evening; at his courage in standing like Horatius at the bridge, all alone. One thing he would have him notice, namely, Section 28. Surely no thief was as generous as to give 6 per cent.

Certain things were set out definitely in existing by-laws and agreements. It was the intention to prevent the Pool from being rendered bankrupt by litigation.

With reference to the Elevator Reserve, Mr. Walker averred that nothing had done more to stimulate interest in the second series contract sign-up than the turning back of this dividend to the people whose wheat had earned it.

The Speaker called for a vote. Mr. McGillivray offered one audible "No." U.F.A. members called for a recorded vote. The count stood at 52 to 3, four members of the assembly being absent, including one of the Conservative quartette.

Premier Gives View on Liquor Situation

Interviewed subsequent to meeting a delegation of the Alberta Prohibition Association Premier Brownlee gave to *The U.F.A.* correspondent on February 27th, a brief summary of what he had then said.

He took the view that any law must find its sanctions in the will of the people. Of no law was this more true than of laws governing the sale and use of alcoholic liquors. According to many, conditions prior to 1923 were much better than those now obtaining. The facts were, however, that about that time a change of attitude came over all Canada with respect to prohibition. He was of the opinion that a reaction was now setting in. It was dangerous to act too hastily and it was unwise to wait too long. He believed that in two or three years opinion in favor of greater restriction of the trade in liquor if not of complete prohibition would crystallize into further legislative action.

With respect to immediate demands within the Province, Mr. Brownlee reiterated that unless beer rooms were conducted better than at present they would be forced out of business by local option efforts and ultimately abolished. There would, however, be no amendment to the act in this or other respects at the present session of the Assembly.

Domestic Grain Rates, School Curriculum, Co-operative Marketing, Features of Week's Debate in Assembly

Agricultural Committee Recommends Quasi-Bulk Classification of Applied of United Farmers of B. C. for Revision of Domestic Grain Rates—Lightening of Secondary School Curriculum Requested

STAFF CORRESPONDENCE

Propose to Assist B.C. Farmers to Get Lower Domestic Grain Rates

Recommendation from Agricultural Committee—Discussion Deferred—Will Consider Re-distribution this Session

MONDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, Feb. 25.—Preliminaries to the big subject of the afternoon—the Wheat Pool debate today—were the introduction of a resolution from the Agricultural committee submitted by its chairman, D. Cameron, of Innisfail, calling on the Legislature to assist the B.C. farmers in their endeavor to remove the discrimination against the consumers of low grades of grain in B.C. and export shippers of those grades; also a removal of the mountain differential which they contend is based upon C.P.R. haulage costs rather than those of the C.N.E. with its much easier mountain gradients. A point of order was raised on this connection, and the matter was left for future ruling. It involves an interpretation of the new rules which the Assembly is now using. L. A. Giroux drew from the Premier the assurance that the subject of re-distribution would be dealt with this session. Mr. McGillivray was informed by the Speaker that his motion calling for a judicial enquiry on the Ponoka Mental Hospital had not been included on the order paper because its subject matter was already being dealt with in a motion therein. In this connection the Premier appealed to the Assembly that in view of the anxiety of those having relatives and friends in the institution, an endeavor be made to have the matter dealt with at one sitting.

A bill to amend the Land Titles Act and a bill to Amend the Mental Diseases Act each received second reading; following which Gordon Walker moved the second reading of the Act Respecting The Alberta Wheat Pool.

The remainder of the sitting concerned itself with voting estimates for the Department of Public Works, commencing with items for sites and construction of public buildings, such as additions to the Keith Sanatorium and to the University Hospital. Interesting facts disclosed were that the Minister of Health planned to have greater accommodation for tubercular patients at the former and more provision for nurses in the extensions planned at the latter.

Committee's Recommendation

Notes: Prior to the presentation of the resolution re domestic freight rates to B.C. referred to in the report of proceedings in the Legislature above, a very thorough discussion of this matter had taken place in the Agricultural Com-

While the debate on the second reading of the Wheat Pool Bill aroused more widespread interest than any other feature of the week in the Legislative Assembly, much progress was made with a variety of legislation, and in Committee of Supply the Assembly passed estimates totalling several million dollars in the various Departments.

A resolution moved by Hector Lang, proposing the further lightening of the curriculum of secondary schools, was supported by Perren Baker, Minister of Education, and adopted unanimously.

It was announced that the provisions of the Debt Adjustment Act will not be extended. With the exception of one feature, the act, it is pointed out, at present does apply throughout the Province.

A bill respecting town planning and the preservation of natural beauty in the Province was introduced by C. L. Gibbs.

An important discussion of immigration policy took place during the week.

mittee, this morning, when the Committee took up again the appeal presented last week by J. E. Armistead of the United Farmers of B.C. on the discrimination against the domestic consumer of low grade grain in view of the export rate on those grades.

It was finally moved by Mr. Headley, seconded by E. E. Sparks (U.F.A.) Wetaskiwin, and passed, "That it is the opinion of this Committee that sympathetic consideration should be given to the application of the United Farmers of B.C. for the revision of domestic rates on grain to the Pacific coast; and that the Government should communicate with the Government of B.C. and give such support as is mutually agreed."

A resolution had been offered previously endorsing the action of the B.C. farmers, but without reference to the Government of B.C. This had been held over for further reflection and light. Premier Brownlee stated the Alberta Government had worked closely with the B.C. Government on the revision of the freight rate structure. The sympathy of the Alberta Government in this case had been definitely expressed before. It was a question as to how they should act in the matter. Courtesy between Provincial Governments was necessary. He anticipated that the B.C. Government would also be sympathetic in the matter.

Mr. Chard, freight rate advisor to the Provincial Government, was present at the sitting and answered many questions. He stated that Alberta carried most of the mountain differential rate, being nearest to the mountain section, and having therefore the shorter haul on which to absorb it. The C.P.R. haulage costs were higher than on the prairies but not in Ontario or New Brunswick.

P. Eisenauer was of the opinion that the resolution might be framed so as to apply to consumer interests here in Alberta as well as to consumer interests in B.C.

Lighter Curriculum, Secondary Schools, Is Asked by Legislature

Resolution by Hector Lang Supported by Perren Baker—Assembly Passes Many Estimates

TUESDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, Feb. 26.—Adoption of a resolution proposing the lightening of the content of the course in secondary schools, and consideration of important estimates, formed the principal business of the Assembly today. The resolution on the secondary school course was the occasion of a fruitful discussion in which many members joined.

Following the question period under the heading of motions other than Government motions, Hector Lang, (Lib.), Medicine Hat, introduced the following, which was seconded by J. T. Shaw and supported by Perren Baker, the Minister:

Resolved that in the opinion of this Assembly the course of studies prescribed for secondary schools should again be referred to the curriculum committee, and that the committee should be asked to consider the advisability of further lightening the content of the course and of making the requirements for Normal Entrance and University Matriculation uniform.

Mr. Lang looked upon the educational system as a structure which the people of the Province were rearing from year to year. The primary schools, with their enrollment of 140,878, were the foundation; next came the secondary schools with 18,208 pupils, the University with its 1536 students capping the structure. He complimented the Minister of Education on the good work being done. The greatest proportionate growth was in the secondary schools, at which fact all should be pleased.

He felt that the course of study was

too heavy as far as the normal school entrance and junior matriculation were concerned. These two courses received the greatest attention, though there were some four others. Physical culture was a very important phase of education which along with music, elocution, oratory, the fine arts, hobbies and general reading was crowded out of the way by the inability of the pupil to cover the ground prescribed.

Proving his points by figures derived from good schools, Mr. Lang showed few covered the course in the three years prescribed. Pupils became discouraged thereby. Teachers felt a sense of failure. Schools suffered in spirit. All through this overloading.

Developing the next point in his resolution, Mr. Lang thought it should not be necessary for pupils going through matriculation course to have to take two other subjects if they decided to become teachers and conversely to take two other subjects if after having taken the course leading to normal entrance they had turned toward the university.

BAKER SUPPORTS RESOLUTION

Supporting the resolution, Hon. Perren Baker, gave a review of the steps taken in revision of the school curricula since the days of the North West Territories. Commencing with the curriculum received the newly created Province had carried on till 1910, at which time a committee of five persons had been appointed under the chairmanship of Dr. H. M. Tory. This committee had changed the eight standard requirements to the twelve grade system. In 1920 a general committee giving representation to all interests had faced this difficult problem.

The Minister had prefaced his discussion of the question by drawing attention to the difficulties involved in modern education. A century or two ago, book learning had been the privilege of the few. Now it was universal. In the attempt to train all the children of the state, two ideas were struggling for dominance: the development of the cultural ideal and the utilitarian, in which latter the economic struggle was involved. He could not say that either should be exclusive. Cognizance should be taken of both. There was a whole literature on the subject.

Facing these questions the committee of 1921 had worked seven years. Some thousands of dollars had been spent in meetings. This committee had concluded that the curriculum was over-crowded and that there was not enough choice as to course of study. They had provided for (1) the needs of the boy in agricultural communities, mining towns, and in commercial enterprises; (2) greater freedom for local authorities; (3) an attractive program of study for the advanced boy or girl until the age of sixteen years. The committee had the criticisms now being advanced in mind. All children, adults too, came to partings in the road where a choice must be made. The child was not required to make a choice till the second year.

REDUCTIONS MADE ON VARIOUS SUBJECTS

Mr. Baker then gave a statement as to the percentage of reduction made on the various subjects. These ranged from six to thirty per cent. The committee had recognized the utilitarian trend and had instituted the technical course. Latitude was given on subjects of local interest. The course was not heavier than in other Provinces. The percentage of passes was about the same. There never had been

any system where all the pupils cleared all the hurdles at the first jump. The Minister then read a number of interesting commendations from persons qualified to judge of the Alberta curriculum.

The unit system, said Mr. Baker, was an elastic course. If seven units a year were too much for either the health, mental capacity, social or cultural interests of the pupil, another year could be taken. The thought still persisted, however, that the courses were too heavy. He believed the content could be materially reduced without seriously impairing efficiency. He would ask the committee whether it were necessary to examine in all units from year to year. Beyond doubt the people of Alberta were the most examined people in Canada, if not in all the world. Concluding, the Minister stated that the difficulties presented by this question on which there was so much divergence of opinion would be borne in mind.

As a question of privilege after the vote had been taken, the Minister drew attention to the fact that the subjects per year had definitely been cut down from nine to seven in the years covered by the resolution.)

FATORS SEPARATE HIGH SCHOOLS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

Congratulating the Minister of Education on his open-minded way of receiving the resolution, G. V. Weaver (Cons.) Edmonton, reminded the Assembly that the past few years had been years of great change and progress. He had wondered whether it was necessary for the same subjects to be taught in rural as city high schools. There was a tendency to too much regimentation. He supported heartily the idea of more physical culture; but would emphasize rather the training afforded by group games. They were good for the temper, for self-control, team play, and loyalty. He regretted that so few teachers took interest in this phase of education. He had seen some remarkable instances of its value in a recent Edmonton school football competition. He would give some financial incentive on this line. Concluding, Col. Weaver thought that separate high schools for boys and girls would be a move in the right direction. He thought it better that boys should be taught by men and girls by women. They would be better morally and intellectually.

AN EXPERIENCED TEACHER GIVES VIEWS

C. L. Gibbs (Lab.), who is himself a member of the teaching profession, congratulated Mr. Lang on his having linked up all sides of the Assembly in this his second as in his first address. He, Mr. Gibbs, was the more puzzled the more his experience in some matters educational. Curricula did not stand alone. They were obviously linked up with the economic questions. There was a crowded curriculum and there were crowded classrooms. Elasticity and diversification were not possible without the expenditure of much more money.

The masses of the people were requiring less and less education for the particular work they had to do. There were three types, for instance, of machine industry: the machine making, the machine using and the machine repairing. Only in the latter was much advanced training needed. There would never be a satisfactory system of education under the capitalist system of production for profit. He thought the project method the ideal to be sought. Children became bored by abstractions. People were not prepared to pay for the introduction of new ideas.

Any attempt to do this was met with difficulty.

Concluding, Mr. Gibbs gave his Conservative friend a little rap by saying that while he agreed with him about the necessity for more physical training, he wished that he were not so obsessed with the cadet training idea. He endorsed him on the question of group games. If he had any criticism of the Minister, it was that he had not more dominated the situation in that respect. He felt assured that the Minister was not in favor of cadet training.

MORE IMAGINATION IN CURRICULUM

Hon. Irene Parfby, (Minister without Portfolio), thought that more imagination might be put into the curriculum. She told of having visited Stockholm and seen there a school which had a special department of physical training. The effects were wonderful. A group of Japanese investigators were there seeing everything. She recognized the difficulties of the Minister of Education.

A. G. Andrews (U.F.A.), Sedgewick, endorsed the need of more physical training. He wished to include the elementary curriculum in the resolution. Mr. Baker intimated that this would be done.

The second reading of a number of bills occupied the rest of the afternoon. One of these took up much discussion: "To Amend the Mental Diseases Act." The provision of parole for certain cases required careful safeguards in the opinion of many members. These would be provided, assured the Minister of Health, Hon. George Hoadley. The Assembly adjourned till eight o'clock.

PASS TELEPHONE ESTIMATES TOTTALLING \$4,741,518

Two hours of an evening session disposed today of the estimates of the Department of Railways and Telephones, calling for appropriations totalling \$4,741,518.

The smooth course of progress through the big figures was interrupted a few times, the chief occasions being in connection with the investigation of salt deposits at McMurray, under the Alberta and Great Waterways item; and the amount of the appropriation in the vote of the Treasury Department for Old Age Pensions.

The enquiry came from the Liberal benches, G. H. Webster of Calgary, backed by J. W. Frame of Athabasca, leading in the matter of the salt wells; J. T. Shaw developing the enquiry about old age pensions.

In connection with the vote of \$4,500 for excess rate enquiry, the facts were elicited by G. H. Webster that the Government was co-operating with the other Prairie Provinces and B.C. in opposing the attempt being made to raise express rates in the West. The Attorney General explained that Saskatchewan desired to retain its own lawyer; but that the other three Provinces were employing one jointly.

SALT AND GYPSUM RIGHTS AT McMURRAY

Hon. Vernon W. Smith, answering Mr. Webster, stated with reference to the salt and gypsum rights at McMurray, that the Government had been concerned with the possibilities in traffic development there.

Mr. Frame expressed some scepticism, which he said was prevalent in that district, as to the finding of the large deposit of salt. Premier Brownlee told of having met last year in the East the head of the Canadian Industries, Limited, who

were the representatives of the Mood interests of Great Britain. The company were so impressed with the possibilities that they were sinking other wells to discover the extent of the deposit. The Government well had disclosed a stratum of salt over two hundred feet thick.

The Minister of Railways announced that he had only the previous day received a request for accommodation for the head of the company who would himself visit the area. The Premier was sure that no private interest would suffer through the Government activities. In fact the prospects were that things would turn out very happy for all concerned. The Government would be saved the sum of \$200,000 which would have been necessary to build the railway around the promontory there to the old salt well site.

Much amusement was aroused by an interchange over salted wells and salt solutions between Mr. Frame and the Minister of Public Works. Russell Love, of Wainwright, put the matter into terms which appeared to satisfy the member from Athabasca. He explained that a well being drilled necessitated the use of water. When the bit entered a salt formation the water became salty. This brine was used over and over again in the process, with the result that the uninitiated visiting the well might get the idea that the well was being salted by the water used.

The estimated requirement of \$65,000 under the heading of Old Age Pensions caused some interrogation of R. G. Reid by the Liberal Leader J. T. Shaw. Mr. Shaw maintained that inasmuch as the act would not be brought into operation for at least some months the Treasurer did not need this amount. Mr. Reid replied that the requirements were being covered as it was not known when the act would be in operation. If it was not spent it would not be required. This brought Fred White, leader of the Labor group, to his feet with a strong plea that there be no delay in implementing the legislation.

At a late hour a start was made on the estimates of the Department of Agriculture.

Linking of Poultry and Dairy Pools Is Mooted by Minister

Assembly Speaks Greater Part of Session in Discussion of Immigration

WEDNESDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, Feb. 27.—The future of the Egg and Poultry Marketing Service and the Egg and Poultry Pool were briefly discussed in the Assembly today, when estimates of the Department of Agriculture were under consideration, and the Minister, George Hoadley, mentioned the possibility that the Poultry Pool would be linked up with the Dairy Pool, in which event the Government Service would cease to exist.

The Government, accused of being instrumental in an attempt to put the trade out of business through the development of a Province-wide system of local Pool units, was in this brief discussion accused by the opposition on the other hand of trying to put an end to the trade's business through centralized co-operative marketing organization.

Immigration in general and the scheme of George Hoadley, Minister of Agriculture,

to bring British boys to Alberta through the agricultural schools, occupied the centre of the stage in Committee of Supply. Questions by J. T. Shaw, C. L. Gibbs, and John Irwin in connection with the vote of \$180,875 for the operation of the schools of agriculture at Vermilion, Oids, Claresholm and Raymond provided the first opportunity. The matter appeared to be settled for the time being when the Committee passed on to a consideration of other items.

Vote No. 124, providing \$15,000 for "Immigration and Exhibits, Including Premiums and Assistance to Exhibitors at International, Royal and Other Shows" gave further opportunity which was seized by E. E. Sparks, of Wetaskiwin, who made some remarks regarding citizens of foreign birth to which Archie Matheson, of Vegreville, made vigorous reply. The subject had this effect at least, that it repopulated the front benches, which for a small portion of the afternoon had been tenanted only by the lady member of the Government, Mrs. Irene Parby. The subject was of such importance as to bring the Premier to his feet for an able defence of the policy of the Government on the question of immigration at large and in particular that of the boys.

He said among other things that there was such insistent demand for 'teen age boys that no difficulty would be experienced in placing two hundred a year for the next five years in good farm homes in Alberta. The pencil of Deputy Speaker McKeen remained poised the greater part of the afternoon over three items and had made no mark opposite the last named when the Committee reported at six o'clock and the Speaker left the chair till Thursday afternoon.

BRITISH BOYS' SETTLEMENT SCHEME

The Minister of Agriculture, in response to a question by J. T. Shaw as to the education at the agricultural schools of British boys brought out in conjunction with the Overseas Settlement Board, stated that the British authorities had no objection to the idea of a contribution being made on their part to the overhead costs of the schools which were there, it was true, for the purposes of the people of Alberta, but were available for these boys also. The only out-of-pocket expense incurred by the Province was the provision of some farm instructors during the months of April and May. Many of these boys had a scientific education superior to that the schools provided and only needed the practical training.

J. T. Shaw: "If a profit of \$5,000 were being made out of the operations, could not this be turned back to the Overseas Settlement Board?"

O. L. McPherson reverted to this later in the discussion and objected to the idea being given forth that the Alberta Government were profiteering in the education of British boys. There were direct charges and there were in addition overhead charges of which the Department of Public Works had responsibility, to which the Overseas Board might properly pay a contribution in the case of these boys.

What responsibility did the Department or the schools accept on behalf of these boys when they went farming? asked C. L. Gibbs (Lab.), Edmonton. That of adviser, replied Mr. Hoadley. No boy started at less than \$10 per month; most of them secured \$20. The boy who had money of his own presented the most difficulty. One had bought a Cadillac car, which of course created some trouble at the school in question.

Answering John Irwin (Cons.), Calgary, as to where the boys went who did not stay on farms, the Minister of Agriculture said that many of these young men were skilled in other work. They found attractions elsewhere; for example, one had received an offer as a watch maker, to which trade he had been apprenticed, of \$150 a month. He had accepted the same and was doing well. Others had gone to B.C. and the United States and other places.

G. H. Webster: "Calgary has received more than its share." Mr. Greenfield's office appeared, said Mr. Webster, to have given some of these boys the idea that they would be assisted to the extent of \$2500 to buy a farm. What were the facts?

Mr. Hoadley outlined the scheme of the Federal Government providing for advance of \$1250, to which the Overseas Board would add a like sum if the young man could himself contribute \$500.

J. T. Shaw: Was this available for Canadians too?

The Minister replied affirmatively.

Mr. Lang: Were boys in the cities made aware of the advantages offered through these school? Mr. Hoadley: "We advertise for three months in the newspapers." Odd boys from the cities did come.

SPARKS IS NOT ENTHUSIASTIC

That the basis of immigration should be the ability of the community to assimilate was the contention of Mr. Sparks when he rose to speak in connection with Vote 124. He thought the system at present in vogue broke down seriously on account of the seasonal nature of much of the work for which immigrants were brought out. There was much talk about prosperity, but he doubted if the crop raised last year by the 37,000 Pool and other farmers could have been profitably marketed had it not been for the frost.

He was not enthusiastic about the boys being brought to Canada by the Minister of Health. He had been told that some of these boys exercise a bad influence in the community about the school. He had had several British harvesters on his farm and had found them wholly unsuited for farm work. They were no doubt good men in their own line and might even be of some value in the harvest rush of big wheat farms, but for a mixed farm such as those of his district they were a failure. He did not believe in stimulating immigration. Let those come who would and going more slowly we should have a population eventually of which we could be proud.

Mr. Sparks spoke of the European foreigners who did not desire schooling, would not join the U.F.A. and would not co-operate. Their women and children worked in the field and the standard of living was lowered thereby. He read extracts from articles and letters. He told stories of hardship and tragedy. He believed that these things were due to a policy of forcing immigration which resulted also in throwing away the heritage of our children and children's children.

MATHESON HAS PRAISE FOR NEW CANADIANS

Mr. Matheson said that if the settlement of this country had depended upon people who had money to support themselves when they first arrived, settlement would have been sixty years behind the present stage. These plains would have more buffalo than men. He denied that European people did not desire education. In his constituency were people who

THEORY OF THE CASE

Important Recommendations re Feeding of Garnet Wheat

Source: Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, *Quarterly Bulletin*, 1997, Vol. 36, No. 4, p. 10. <http://www.clevelandfed.org/publications/qb/1997/qb3604.pdf>

Among the Statutes Relating to Town Planning and the Preservation of Natural Beauty," occupied a large part of the afternoon. C. L. Gibbs (Lab.), Edmonton, who is sponsoring the bill, explained a number of points in answer to questions. It would not conflict with the powers enjoyed by municipalities. Its provisions had been placed before the cities of Edmonton, Calgary and Lethbridge.

Answering Mr. Shaw, the Premier stated that the Government was not planning to proceed in any very wholesale way in the preservation of natural beauty. There were, however, certain beauty spots adjacent to highways where land was cheap and park sites should be acquired while there was opportunity. Mr. Weaver said that the Dominion parks were very fine, but they were a long way from the populous areas of the Province. The Government, said Mr. Brownlee, had that very fact in mind. The committee reported progress on this bill.

HOSPITAL BILL PASSES COMMITTEE

The University of Alberta Hospital bill presented no contentious matter and was passed through Committee with an order to "be read a third time." It provides for a board of management for the hospital to consist of not less than six nor more than twelve members. It also provides for the method and length of term of their appointment and outlines their duties and powers.

During the discussion of "The Municipal Hospitals Act" Mr. Headley found himself again the centre of an attack by J. T. Shaw. Dealing with the powers of the Minister of Health as official administrator, Mr. Shaw thought it an opportune time for the Minister to give an account of the Inisfail Hospital situation. Mr. Headley said that the hospital was doing nicely now; and was endorsed in this statement by the member for Inisfail, Donald Cameron (U.F.A.). Mr. Shaw was not satisfied, and reverted to reports in the Calgary papers of an investigation conducted by the College of Physicians and Surgeons. Mr. Headley replied that changes in the building and other re-adjustments had been approved by the hospital board itself before it was dismissed. If Mr. Shaw would read the report, then he would know all about it. It was full of detail. Mr. Shaw persisted that the matters should be brought before the Legislature and the public.

"READ THE REPORT" MR. SHAW'S HEADLEY

"Read the report," said Mr. Headley vigorously, "then go after me again." Mr. Shaw: "The Minister wants to postpone the going after." The Minister was not to be drawn. He wanted Mr. Shaw to read the report. He would state one thing, however, the deaths of which Mr. Shaw spoke occurred before the Department intervened and were the cause of the Department's intervention.

The committee rose to report and the bill was ordered read a third time.

KEITH SANITARIUM FOR TUBERCULAR CASES

Turning as Committee of Supply to further consider the estimates, the legislators voted nearly a million and a half dollars for the Department of Public Health. The members for Calgary, Messrs. White (Lab.), and Webster (Lib.), were interested in the vote for Keith Sanitarium. Their questions elicited the

information from the Minister, Mr. Headley, that while there were fifty-one patients now waiting for admission to that institution, increase of accommodation was only being planned for thirty. He had plans afoot in addition to give grants to municipal hospitals to take care of the more advanced cases in small buildings attached; thus giving to the Keith institution more room for the most hopeful cases. Messrs. Shaw and White and Webster thought that the building known in Calgary as Harvett's Heights might be used for children suspected of tuberculosis.

Another vote brought forward the proposed health unit plan, which was described at some length by the Minister. The Rockefeller Institute would pay one third of the cost for the first five years. An area having, for instance, Red Deer as its centre and taking in towns and adjacent rural parts as far as Lacombe and Innisfail, would be ideal for trying out this plan.

MENTAL INSTITUTE AT OLIVER

In connection with Vote 612 providing a total of \$4,368 for the Provincial Mental Institute at Oliver, Mr. Headley showed that plans to meet the overcrowding at Ponoka of which so much complaint was being made had been well under way for some time. A building was now almost complete which would remove certain cases and administration offices, attendants' quarters, etc., from Ponoka, providing space equal to a whole ward for one hundred and twenty patients at the latter institution. It was planned to limit the number of patients at Ponoka to one thousand.

Ponoka was again made the subject of debate in the evening when J. T. Shaw asked about a certain Albert T. Erickson who had apparently been illegally committed to the institution. The Attorney General Mr. Lymburn explained that the man had been wrongfully committed by his wife. As soon as complaint was made and evidence forthcoming the man had been released.

The Premier: How long was this bringing of the grievance of individual people in connection with this institution where difficulties were an everyday matter going to continue? He thought it was becoming ridiculous.

Mr. Shaw: Perhaps I had better say no more.

The Speaker: The discussion is out of order.

Turning to the estimates for the Department of Agriculture once more, the Committee faced the item of \$15,500 at Vote 124 which had been the basis for the lengthy discussion of immigration on Wednesday. To the relief of the press gallery it was passed without further comment.

DISTRICT AGRICULTURISTS WORK COMMENDED

Gordon Forster who later in the evening was to cause the furore of the day by charging that political capital was being made out of unfortunate incidents at Ponoka, said in connection with the vote for district agriculturists and boys' and girls' work, that he heartily endorsed this policy. It had created much interest among the young people of his constituency and he would advise every member to seek to secure one for his constituency.

A. L. Sanders, of Stettler, also spoke highly of the work of these agents. He was very sorry that the vote was not greatly increased. They were winners in his constituency to its good effects both to the south and north of them.

That there was a registered attendance of 208 and some one hundred other visitors at the school for weed inspectors now being held at the university was the statement given out by Mr. Headley at a later stage of the committee.

The vote for fur farms caused some discussion, it being evidently a live subject in some northern constituencies. Thirty licenses had been issued, said Mr. Headley. There had been applications for about 200. Answering George MacLachlan (U.F.A.) Pembina, and J. W. Frame (Lib.), Athabasca, he said that commercial use of licenses was distinctly discouraged. None were issued to non-residents if known. No companies were permitted to exploit lakes for the purpose.

An interesting item was that of \$26,924 for travelling clinics. Despite all the implied criticism of the Minister for his venture toward state medicine, not a voice was raised to protest at this vote. A total vote on Income Account for the Department of Public Health of \$1,418,840 was passed. The Capital Account items amounting to \$76,747 were held over pending the discussion of the Hines-Farrar report on Ponoka which will take place on Monday.

ALBERTA COAL IN ONTARIO MARKET

Dealing with the estimates of the Executive Council, the Premier's special responsibility, P. M. Christophers precipitated a discussion on the Ontario market for Alberta coal. He thought that inasmuch as the total shipment in 1928 was only half of the shipments of 1926, the work of publicity in that respect was a failure. Premier Brownlee explained that while trial shipments were being made in 1926 there was naturally more attention to sale. In 1927 there was little interest in the matter in Ontario; so that in 1928 the work of publicity had to be built up again. Only that morning he had received a letter from a coal company in connection with some other matters which made passing reference to the great success the company was having in the Ontario market. Repeat orders were coming through. Time must be given to try out the experiment. He was satisfied that the Province was being well served by the Publicity Commissioner.

Mr. White asked what attempt was being made to keep down costs at the Ontario end. To this the Premier replied that it was a matter between the operators and their agents. The Ontario Government was passing an act to prevent the fraudulent sale of inferior United States coal as Alberta coal. Answering Mr. Christophers, he said that one coal company in the Province had perfected the process of briquetting. Others were experimenting.

FORSTER ENDORSES GIBBS' STAND RE PONOKA STAFF

In discussion of the estimates for the Department of Health, with especial reference to the vote for the Ponoka Mental Hospital, C. L. Gibbs expressed the hope that provision would be made for sick pay, more holidays and better accommodation for the nurses there. He instanced the long hours and difficult and harassing work. Gordon Forster took the occasion to endorse the remarks of Mr. Gibbs. He, Mr. Forster, had visited the institution on the previous Saturday. While on tour through the building he had had much conversation with the attendants as to conditions and had found them very content with their work and surprisingly satisfied. He did not believe members of the Assembly would care to

stay there one day. He found that the attendants felt keenly the criticism to which they were indirectly being subjected. They only desired to be let alone. For his part he was convinced that the siring of cases of trouble at Ponoka had only one object. The occasion was being used for political purposes.

A LITTLE STORM— PREMIER AS PEACEMAKER

Cries of "No! No!" Calls to retract from the left of the Speaker, Mr. Shaw resented the charge. Mr. Weaver also rose to object. Mr. Gibbs thought if they were not to speak about these things they might as well stay at home. He had not meant say criticism of the Government.

Messrs. Shaw and Weaver had received many letters and had many personal interviews on these matters. People were pressing for publicity in these things.

Messrs. Breton and Sanders from the Government side had also received letters. There were other ways of dealing with these things. Mr. Breton had been approached by many inmates while at Ponoka. One man had gone at length into the history of his case but had omitted the important detail that he had killed a man only a few weeks before. Mr. Sanders had received a copy of the Swartzenberger declaration a month before it was presented to the Assembly by Mr. McGillivray. He had laid it before the Attorney General. Mr. Sparks regretted that Mr. Forster had seen fit to accuse members of political motives. J. W. Frame, from the Liberal benches, wondered if there were constituents of Mr. Forster's in the gallery.

Premier Brownlee poured oil on troubled waters on the one hand. On the other he pleaded the necessity of verification and careful consideration before making public such matters. The Minister of Health had statements from several doctors showing that the Swartzenberger declaration was in point of fact quite untrue. The woman had never had a broken arm. Radio photographs proved it conclusively. He wished, however, that the members of the Assembly should feel at all times at liberty to bring matters before the Assembly which they felt it their duty to do.

The Assembly cooled off and the time for adjournment arrived.

Education and Police Estimates Are Cause of Some Discussion

Scope of Debt Adjustment Act Provisions
Will Not Be Further Extended
Throughout Province

FRIDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, March 2.—Mr. Baker and Mr. Lymburn in their respective capacities of Minister of Education and Attorney General came under fire on Friday afternoon when the Assembly, continuing in Committee of Supply, came to consider appropriations for their departments. Nothing of a very debatable nature appeared to arise out of the Department of Municipal Affairs, the Minister, Mr. Reid, being subjected to no barrage of opposition.

Among the significant items that arose out of the discussion of the various estimates are the following: two additional inspectors of schools will be engaged this year; there is a shortage of teachers;

the system of making loans to Normal students is working with conspicuous satisfaction; the Alberta Provincial Police dealt with 15,000 cases of breach of the law last year; there have been occasions, it is stated, of real necessity for the police guard at the doors of the Legislative Building; the application of the Debt Adjustment Act will not be extended to the Province as a whole beyond the present provisions of a voluntary sort; also that the Savings Branch is being operated more cheaply than any Government Savings Institution in Canada, if not in the world.

EDUCATION ESTIMATES IN BRIEF

The sum of \$2,444,292.10 will be required from income account to finance the activities during the present fiscal year of the Department of Education. The largest item in this expenditure is that of \$1,268,407 for grants to schools. Next in order is that to the University of Alberta of \$325,623; the inspection of schools costs the Province \$137,950; and Institute of Technology at Calgary a vote of \$93,155. The three Normal schools at Calgary, Camrose and Edmonton absorb respectively as follows: \$43,114; \$29,339; and \$36,139. Examinations cost the Department the sum of \$97,690; free school texts, \$45,594 and the education, maintenance and transportation of deaf and blind children total \$43,050.

In connection with the University vote, Mr. Shaw said that he expected to see a great advance in University education within the next few years; especially along industrial engineering and scientific lines. He thought the Minister should make generous provision for this and be at least one jump ahead of the demand. Mr. Baker said that he would be glad to consider the requests of the University authorities. He had not found it necessary to prod them as yet. Mr. Shaw thought that the salaries of teachers in the Normal schools should be high enough to help the most expert educationalists. He drew attention to the fact that the rates were paying more than the Government for pedagogical experts.

Mr. Gibbs brought up the question of practice teachers. They ought to be paid. Mr. Baker said they were paid by the school boards using them. The Government gave the City of Calgary, for instance, the free use of a building with heating, etc., worth \$5,000 a year for this purpose.

Mr. Shaw thought the inspectors were only modestly compensated, that the requirement of a degree was open to question and that too many of them came from the larger centres. He thought the increase in inspectors ought to be in the country; not, as had been announced, in the two large cities. Mr. Baker replied that while a degree was no absolute criterion of value, it was surely some guarantee in the case of educational work. He never appointed a man who had not had rural school experience. By the time a man became eligible for an inspectorship he had usually proven his value and been attracted to some city school; so perforce they had to look for him there.

Mr. Giroux wanted to lighten the load of the inspector in his section of the north country. Mr. Baker intimated the likelihood of another being appointed.

COST OF EXAMINATIONS

The cost of exams coming in for review, Sam Brown of High River expressed

the conviction that the parents ought not to have to bear it. It was a concern of the state and should be borne by all tax payers. Donald Cameron of Inglefall also found much objection to this. He thought that the fees were at least too high. Mr. Baker stated in reply that it was a question of revenue and that in any case some small fee was desirable. The cutting down of examinations, of which he was convinced there were too many, was now before the committee on curriculum. This would ease the burden of examination costs a little.

Speaking of the number of teachers Mr. Baker stated that there was a demand for forty teachers in excess of supply at present. Interrogated by Fred White, the Minister thought that the Board of Reference had a real function. It controlled the situation between teachers and school boards. A teacher could be dismissed in one of two ways; summarily for cause and by lapse of contract. He thought the authority should be vested not in the Department but in the duly elected body of the community. He was, of course, as the new Education Act showed, in favor of enlarging the electorate concerned. The local school board was too near the problem. Mr. White thought that the Board of Reference should have more real powers; so that the teacher should have some court of appeal. It was intimated that this matter would have a hearing later when a resolution would be brought forward by Mr. Gibbs.

\$213,000 in principal and \$4,679 in accrued interest was outstanding against Normal school loans at present, said Mr. Baker in reply to W. W. Prevey, (Lib.), Edmonton. The account was in a very healthy condition. Proper security was obtained and the money came back.

LOW COST OF ADMINISTERING SAVINGS BRANCH

In the course of passing the estimates of the Treasury Department under Public Debt, Mr. Reid stated that the cost of administering the Savings Branch amounted to only .15, or .17 per cent. The reason for the light handling charge was that only one office was used. Other Provinces opened offices in several cities. He said the outlay of \$13,000 for advertising was amply justified.

The one lively period of the sitting was occasioned by the demand made by Fred White, Labor leader, for greater expenditure in mother's allowances. He would have the number of police cut down if there were nothing more for them to do than guard in such numbers the Legislative Buildings. This opened up the whole question of the Provincial Police.

Mr. Shaw wanted a definite statement as to the rejection or acceptance of the Dominion offer to police the Province. The Attorney General countered that they had decided to employ their own police force.

Mr. Weaver: "Had the Government taken into account that the offer of the Dominion would save the Province two and a half millions in ten years?"

PROTEST AGAINST PAY REDUCTION

Mr. Pattinson, Labor member for Edson, was interested in the fact that a cut had been made in the salary of police on detachment. Was the Province saving money at the expense of these men. The quarters for which they were now being made to pay, in effect,

(Continued on page 16)

News from Alberta Wheat Pool Head Office

Information for Members and Loans Issued by the Publicity Department of the Alberta Wheat Pool.

News & Views

The Chinook Wheat Pool Local has recently elected a new chairman and secretary: Neil McLean and E. J. Marr, respectively.

Gardley Wheat Pool Local has recently been organized with J. Cramer, of Mecheche as secretary; and E. G. Marsden, Box 86, Munson, as chairman.

Reorganization of the Standard Wheat Pool Local has been reported with the following new officers: Secretary, H. W. Larson, of Standard; chairman, E. A. Wagner, of Standard.

New officers were recently elected by the West Wingham Wheat Pool Local, the secretary now being Burns Campbell of West Wingham, and the chairman, A. E. Hall, West Wingham.

A district Wheat Pool convention for sub-district G-1 will be held at Heath on March 20th at 4 p.m. All Wheat Pool members in that district are invited to attend this convention and take part in the discussion.

The Board of Directors of the Alberta Wheat Pool have appointed J. Jesse Strang, director for Claresholm, as their representative on a committee to investigate the flour milling industry; the other member of the committee, H. E. G. H. Schofield, has been appointed by the U.F.A.

The Scoop Shovel.—On the morning of August 30th, the first load of Pool grain from the 1928 crop, grown in the Dauphin district, was dumped in the pit of the Dauphin Pool elevator. From that date until the 31st of December, 3,301 loads (a quantity of non-Pool grain included), have been handled in precisely the same manner; this represents an average daily handle of 31 loads, some of the "peak" days running as high as 113 loads. On September 7th and 8th, 180 loads were taken in, seven cars were shipped out.

Chinook Advance.—Quite a large number of farmers attended the Pool meeting held in the Chinook Consolidated School, Tuesday evening, February 12th. N. D. Stewart, delegate for District D-4, which lies south of Chinook, covered the business that has been dealt with in the delegates' conventions, bringing much information, which was both interesting and beneficial to the Pool members.

George Chard, field service man, in a very able manner, explained many problems and in a general way gave a great deal of information that should be enlightening to every farmer. He also answered many questions in a very clear way. No doubt the next time Mr. Chard visits the district, a very much larger crowd will make it a point to attend the meeting.

A Wheat Pool Local was formed so that the members may keep in closer touch with the local organization and head office. The officers elected were: Presi-

dent, Neil McLean; secretary-treasurer, Russell Marr; directors, R. Stewart, W. Johnston and Joe Young.

First Interim Payment, 1928 Pool

Some Mistaken Taken Into Consideration by Selling Agency

Under date of March 1st distribution was made of First Interim Payment on deliveries to 1928 Pool amounting to 12c per bushel on practically all grades, except No. 4 where the amount was 10c per bushel. In Alberta this distribution to Pool members aggregated approximately \$6,500,000.

In setting this payment a number of features must be taken into consideration by the Central Selling Agency. Since the first year's operation of the Pool it has been the policy to make the First Interim Payments sufficiently conservative to permit the Selling Agency to continue a selling policy that in their opinion may procure ultimately the highest returns to the grower, unhindered by any turn the market may take, when a large volume of crop remains unsold. To pursue such a policy consistently throughout the whole season, the Selling Agency must be at all times in a strong financial and market position. Should we at any time make too large an initial or interim payment on any grade the net returns to the grower would probably suffer as a consequence.

Further, it is necessary to fix the amount of payment several weeks in advance of actual date in order to take care of the enormous labor required in balancing and closing the accounts of each grower and completing cheques for payment. The Alberta Pool alone has many thousands of individual accounts, and with this recent payment issued over 38,000 cheques, and the greatest care must be exercised to insure accuracy.

Sound Procedure Essential

It is absolutely essential that the Canadian Wheat Pool proceed carefully and on sound lines to insure the safety and security of its members. Many farmers in this Province have only recently joined because of the fact that the Pool's first five years of operation convinced them that the organization was being administered and conducted along sound business lines, and further realized that the Pool's system of orderly marketing was sound in principle.

Our Pool Directors had a difficult situation facing them at date of setting this interim payment, with Argentina coming on the market with a very large crop uncontrolled in its marketing, and Australia producing fifty million bushels more wheat than last year. It has happened before where over-optimistic leaders of Pool organizations in other countries have gone ahead with liberal early payments, only to find that they were forced to sell heavily on falling markets in order to maintain the required margin which excessive payments had impaired. Should the Canadian Wheat Pool be forced at any time to

liquidate any considerable part of their holdings, growers can well imagine what effect it would have on market levels.

The Pool is functioning splendidly and when the crop season closes our members will have received the best average price obtainable on the world's markets for their wheat.

Any delivery checking coupons still held by Pool members should be forwarded immediately to head office of Wheat Pool, Calgary.

McPhail on Payment

In connection with the recent First Interim Payment, President McPhail stated:

"I am convinced that the Central Selling Agency is at the present time authorizing the payment of as much money to Pool members as can be justified by the existing market situation. We are also satisfied that the orderly marketing policy of the Pool is being well adhered to this year, even in the face of extremely difficult conditions; and notwithstanding the disappointment which we realize will be quite natural on the part of many Pool members at the comparatively low price level of wheat at the present time, we are certain that the influence of organized co-operative marketing has so far been demonstrated in a very satisfactory manner this year, under the most unusual conditions which have existed."

W. AUSTRALIAN POOL SLOGAN

The Wheat Pool of Western Australia recently offered a prize of \$20 for a slogan. A large number of slogans were sent in, the judges picking the following as the winner:

To reap is half the battle;
To Pool, the victory.

WINING AND MILLING

So disappointing have been the present financial returns from the wheat crop that the air is full of suggestions as to how the lot of the producer can be improved, says *The Canadian Milling Journal*. The President of the United Farmers of Canada, Saskatchewan Section, has advocated an abandonment of the practice of mixing; the Vice-president has started discussion on the advisability of wheat producers, through the Pool, going into the milling business, and the Provincial Government has appointed a Royal Commission to inquire into wheat marketing. Unprofitable farming is like cancer: no one as yet has perfected a cure for it. Some day, perhaps, they will. We believe that they made a start when the Wheat Pool was created. We believe that more progress could be made towards finding a solution for the growers' difficulties, through every farmer in the land becoming a member of the Wheat Pool than through any other agency. We believe that if any solution can be found, it can be found more easily by the Wheat Pool than by any other organization. Governments and educational organizations can, we think, be of tremendous assistance, but a Wheat Pool including all

(Continued on page 36)

Red Deer Director Urges Membership Campaign Before Spring Rush

Suggest at Least Two Canvassers Be Appointed in Each Township

To the Officers and Members of all U.F.A. Locals in the Red Deer Federal Constituency:

Having been elected U.F.A. Director for the Red Deer Federal Constituency for the year 1929; I am taking the liberty of writing you all a personal letter with regard to the membership drive the U.F.A. is putting on.

We have now entered upon the twenty-first anniversary of our organization, and we think there is no better way of celebrating it than by putting on a very intensive and thorough campaign for membership. In order to do this it was decided at the annual meeting of your Board to put on a systematic house to house canvass, both for U.F.A., U.F.W.A. and Junior members, and I especially like to impress upon you the necessity of getting the young people interested because to my mind they are the real life of our organization.

The Authorization Forms

To carry on this campaign more effectively it was decided at the annual meeting of your organization to have Central Office make out authorization forms. These forms are now in the hands of all Local secretaries and it is the wish of your Board that they be used wherever possible. As these forms run the life of the respective Local on which such is drawn they will do away with the necessity of canvassing for U.F.A. members every year. Any item that a member or a Local does not wish to collect, such as

Local dues, may be struck out, and any member who wishes to pay his dues in cash always has the privilege to do so.

To carry on this campaign in the best possible way it has been decided to enlist the services of all Federal Members, Provincial Members and their Directors, to assist the Local U.F.A. secretaries and members.

Two Canvassers for Each Township

To make this a real membership sign-up campaign we would suggest that at least two canvassers be appointed in each township. If this plan is followed out it will only mean a day or two for each member, and surely no member would refuse to give that much time to our organization. It is my desire if at all possible to put on this drive before the spring rush commences, because after spring work begins people will be too busy and after seeding vacations will start and it will be much more difficult to make the canvass the success it should be.

Lastly, do not be afraid to call upon your Federal and Provincial members and Directors for any assistance they may be able to render.

I am always at your service and will be glad to assist in any way I possibly can.

Yours fraternally,

R. PYE,

U.F.A. Director,

Red Deer Federal Constituency.
Penhold, Alta.

Best Meeting for Several Years at Ewing Local

The most largely attended and most enthusiastic meeting which has been held at the Ewing U.F.A. Local for several years, assembled in the Ewing school on February 4th, states A. McCready, vice-president of the Local. A. A. McNeill, delegate from the Local to the Annual Convention, presented a splendid report. All members were invited to take part in the impromptu program, and in responding, contributed greatly to the success of the meeting. It was arranged to hold the next meeting on March 4th.

Locals Urged to Bring Up Membership in Wataskiwin

General Constituency Drive Later, but Locals Asked to Do All Possible Now

To all U.F.A. Locals in the Wataskiwin Federal Constituency:

Having been elected as your Director for 1929, I am very anxious to get in close touch with every Local in the Constituency so that we may be in a position to co-operate efficiently in a real effort to increase our membership and influence during the present year.

As you are no doubt aware, the Annual Convention decided that a membership drive should be put on this year. The time for this was left to each Director

to decide as to when it should be put on in his particular district. In our Constituency the time has not yet been definitely set, but in order to make a real success of it considerable careful thought and preliminary work is essential.

To this end I would like to visit as many Locals as possible before seeding so I may get acquainted with you and your problems and get in a better position to assist you in the U.F.A. work. If you are having any meetings during the next few weeks, which you care to invite me to attend, please write or phone me at the earliest possible date and I will attend if at all possible. In districts remote from my home, it would help considerably if several adjoining Locals could hold meetings on consecutive days, but in any case, I will do the best I can.

Re the membership drive, I would urge every Local to go ahead and do all they can in their own way as it all helps and leaves less to be done later.

Remember that I am always at your service, and it is my earnest hope that we will accomplish something worth while in our Constituency this year.

Yours fraternally,

HENRY G. YOUNG, Director.

Wataskiwin Federal Constituency.
Wataskiwin.

Canada's Federal Budget in Brief

Features of the budget presented by Hon. J. A. Robb, Federal Finance Minister, in the House of Commons on March 1st were:

Estimated revenue for year ending

March 31, 1930, \$454,942,000; estimated expenditure \$385,140,000, estimated surplus, \$69,782,000.

Surplus will be used for reduction of national debt, the total reduction for six years being \$226,708,000, according to Mr. Robb's statement in the House. As a result of changes in taxation, it is estimated that there will be a loss of revenue of \$23,000,000 in the coming year. War loan totalling \$60,000,000 maturing this year will be paid in cash. It is estimated that the net debt of Canada at the end of the year will be \$6,227,000,000.

Changes in Taxation

The sales tax will be cut from 3 to 2 per cent. Tax of one per cent on insurance premiums other than life and marine is abolished, as is also the tax on railway and steamship tickets and on cables and telegrams. It is proposed to change the manner of taxing sales or transfers of stock. Changes in the customs tariff affect 34 items, applying to the following among other industries: mining, horticulture, fishing and fish canning. Reductions in tariff on materials used in manufacturing. Cotton schedules and steel and coal rates remain unchanged, as do tariffs affecting fruits and vegetables. Tariff is reduced on side cars for motor cycles and engine generators, and chronometers for compasses and aircraft entering Canada are placed on free list.

The income tax remains unchanged.

Federal expenditure for the coming year is estimated at \$391,507,840, an increase of \$6,355,122 over the total for the fiscal year just closed, including an increase of \$1,186,932, the total for the coming year being \$29,123,378. Militia services vote remains the same, but naval and air services are increased by \$875,000 and \$313,432 respectively. Provision for pensions is \$43,331,021, an increase of \$2,904,767. European war pensions show an increase of \$3,090,000.

The total estimate for agriculture is \$6,483,328, an increase of \$1,189,055.

Interest on public debt is estimated at \$121,880,493 a decrease of \$3,642,369. Other decreases include: soldiers and general land \$276,000; superannuation \$81,000; railways and canals, income, \$74,939; mines and geological survey, \$60,000; Dominion lands and parks, \$202,511.

Provision for the Hudson Bay railway is the same as last year, \$6,500,000.

NOT TOUCHING CAUSE

"The burgomaster of Frankfort says: 'He who is preaching war today should be examined for insanity.' But no one is today openly preaching war. On the other hand, nothing or little is being done to alter the conditions of things that cause war. It is the people who refuse to alter the conditions that produce war who should be examined for insanity."—Chapman Cohen.

Among important matters dealt with by the U.F.A. Annual Convention with which we hope to deal in not long time, are the report of the Banking and Credit Committee, and the discussion upon financial questions, and the report of the debate on the subject of the Trade Adjustment Act. The next regular issue will also contain a number of contributions to the Correspondence section of the paper.—Edw.